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STUDENT NOTES

Legislative Reapportionment: *Baker v. Carr*

After the War for American Independence, the founders of our nation met in Philadelphia in 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation. The product of that convention was the Constitution of the United States, the organic law upon which our country is founded. Although the Revolutionary War had been fought to gain liberty and justice for all, the new government, as contemplated by the framers, was anything but democratic. Rather the emphasis in our fundamental law was on a republican form of government as it was popularly conceived in that day. However, the Constitution, being the result of compromise, was not completely devoid of democratic principles. At least, in the House of Representatives the people had a direct and generally equal voice. But this was offset by a Senate elected by the states through their respective legislatures, and by an